

Claims:

1. A compound which has an IC_{50} ratio of about 0.1 or greater as regards the IC_{50} for the PDE IV catalytic form which binds rolipram with a high affinity divided by the IC_{50} for the form which binds rolipram with a low affinity.
- 5 2. A compound according to claim 1 which was not known to be a PDE IV inhibitor prior to the filing date of this application.
3. A method for elevating cAMP in leukocytes and airway smooth muscle while minimizing gastrointestinal and psychotropic effects, which method comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound having an IC_{50} ratio of about
10 1 or less as regards the IC_{50} for PDE IV catalytic form which binds rolipram with a high affinity divided by the IC_{50} for the form which binds rolipram with a low affinity.
4. A method for treating inflammation or for dilating bronchi by preferentially inhibiting the PDE IV catalytic form that binds rolipram with a low affinity, which method
15 comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which has an IC_{50} ratio of about 0.1 or greater as regards the IC_{50} for PDE IV catalytic form which binds rolipram with a high affinity divided by the IC_{50} for the form which binds rolipram with a low affinity.